

**MINUTES OF THE H. P. DEER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**APRIL 14, 2014**

The Hollywood Park Deer Committee met in a regular session April 14, 2014 at 7:03 p.m. in Town Hall. Notice was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Laws.

Committee Chairman Jeff Doss called the meeting to order. Committee Members present: Nancy Swan, Carol Ingham, Michael Crevoisier, Arnold English, Barbara Schmitz, Markham Benn, Tonya Cummings and Committee Secretary, LuAnn Montgomery.

*LARRY MORRIS*

**CONSENT ITEM:**

Review and approve Deer Committee meeting Minutes for March 10, 2014. Barbara Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Arnold English. The motion passed unanimously.

**WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORTS:**

No Wildlife Incident Reports were submitted.

**PRESENTATION:**

*H.P. Deer Manager, Michael Mayfield providing updated trapping status.* Mayfield expressed a slow start to this past deer trapping season. In the end, it turned out successful with 33 deer removed from the community. They are currently 80% finished with the management plan and are waiting for May deer census to include with the trend data. Trap, Transport, Transplant (TTT) remains the primary objective. Knowing it is the residents, Deer Committee and City Council main objective and having leeway to darting rather than mobile trapping should be an advantage in the future. With minimal results of 7-8 captured deer, the transport becomes difficult with live animals; However, more ground time with more deer on the trailer can be justified and proposed in the deer management plan. Dart sites would be implemented with feed stations along the road, which is city easement property. A question was asked regarding trailer size, answering average size would hold approximately 10-30 deer. But procedures being done along these areas in the past had become true nightmares in the eyes of the residents and public alike. Mayfield says sedation within 3-5 minutes after darting keeps the deer staying in the immediate area without risk of them wandering throughout the neighborhood. He said that he had spent several hours visiting with residents going by and didn't even realize trapping was occurring. A committee member commented on the controversy that will still occur if darting is witnessed by residents. History has scarred many citizens and the committee wants justification. Mayfield's reply: If the deer become agitated then we back off. We do certain procedures based on cost. Committee member threatening it not be done in an amateur way. Mayfield's response is that he assures we keep in mind more aggressive options proposed will surpass anything that's been done in the past. "We still have a fairly large problem." The data trend shows management plans is affective. Birth control is very costly and can only be done to maintain the herd once the population is acceptable. A proposed activity is to join 2-3 methods together to stagger utilization. Traps are limited, opposed to going to the deer in the neighborhood and darting. Myopathy can strike up to 80% transported deer but when darted, they can be sedated for 45 minutes or more. Mayfield continued, providing the names of the drugs used and explaining the utilization of these chemicals. A member mentioned they would rather see this purpose of darting for TTT rather than trapping for TTP. Mayfield exclaims he wants the Deer Committee involved, saying there was miscommunication that occurred early in trapping this past season. The ecological capacity in Hollywood Park is approximately 900 acres with 75% usable habitat due to structures, pavement, etc. This decreases the capacity and in essence, is poor habitat to care for the deer. His opinion for ideal deer population for Hollywood Park is about 60 animals. He said that it is our benefit to use more aggressive procedures to control and maintain the herd. Cultural caring capacity can be termed differently. A committee member stated that although the deer may not be in optimal health, they have not seen overall "sickly" animals. Several factors involved in managing a healthy herd. One committee member argues, saying the deer manager is thinking in an unrealistic manner, while another wants to assure that committee members are present during the times of trapping or darting. A committee member stated they prefer the medicated deer are transported and released together and monitored. Chairman, Jeff Doss expressed thanks to Mayfield for coming to the meeting to update everyone and said he was looking forward to the May deer census numbers. A question was asked inquiring what an individual should do if they have a ranch and would like to have the deer transplanted to their property. The answer is to notify TPWD and follow their criteria and requirements; however, it does require a fee. Mayfield also responded in saying he would be in contact with previous interested parties for the upcoming season, emphasizing TTT is again the primary objective. One must be knowledgeable of all the fees involved with TTT vs. TTP.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

*None*



**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. ***Review, discuss and take possible action on recommendation for Deer Crossing signs in Hollywood Park.***  
Swan handed out modified examples of deer signs and Tonya Cummings mentioned her meeting with EDC, saying they have money to fund the sign project. It was suggested flashing lights be used seasonally.
2. ***Review, discuss and take possible action on results from H.P. deer trapping.***  
As discussed during M. Mayfield's presentation.
3. ***Review, discuss and take possible action on the disposition and/or collection of antlers from expired bucks.***  
Due to time constraints, Arnold English made a motion all agenda items be tabled until the following meeting. The motion was seconded by Nancy Swan. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE DEER MEETINGS:**

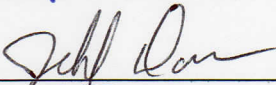
1. Review, discuss and take possible action on recommendation for Deer Crossing signs in Hollywood Park.
2. Review, discuss and take possible action on the results from H.P. deer census.
3. Review, discuss and take possible action on the disposition and/or collection of antlers from expired bucks.

The schedule for the next H.P. Deer Committee Meeting was set for May 12, 2014. Larry Morris made a motion to accept the next meeting schedule/agenda and adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by B. Schmitz. The motion passed unanimously.

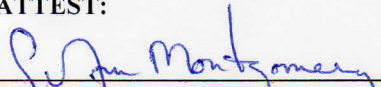
**ADJOURNED:**

Chairman, Jeff Doss adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

MINUTES OF THIS MEETING APPROVED AS SUBMITTED ( )  
CORRECTED ( ) THIS 12 DAY OF MAY, 2014.

  
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Chairman, Jeff Doss

ATTEST:

  
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Secretary, LuAnn Montgomery

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City Attorney